

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 305320

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: IO/HDC:JJBUCZACKI

APPROVED BY: IO/HDC:EPNOZIGLIA

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R 311538Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION GENEVA 6141

UNCLAS STATE 305320

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT LA PAZ 9051 SENT SECSTATE 29 DEC:

QUOTE UNCLAS LA PAZ 9051

PASS TO ARA/BC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1975

REF: STATE 286666

A. HIGHLIGHTS OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD. BOLIVIA ENTERED THE INTERNATIONAL PHASE IN ITS NARCOTICS PROGRAM DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. IT HOSTED A REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF NARCOTICS OFFICIALS FROM ITS NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES; IT MANAGED TO INCLUDE AN AGEDNA ITEM ON BILATERAL COOPERATION IN NARCOTICS MATTERS FOR THE PERIODIC MEETINGS OF THE PERU-BOLIVIA DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION; IT SIGNED THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTICS AND THE AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND IT MADE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNFDAC; IT SIGNED A TECHNICAL AND COMMODITY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE UN FOR NARCOTICS CONTROL PURPOSES; PRESIDENT BANZER MADE A STRONG COMMITMENT TO AN ALL-OUT FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT NARCOTICS USE AND TRAFFICKING IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE UNGA IN OCTOBER.

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1) ENFORCEMENT PROJECT. THE NARCOTICS UNIT (DNSP) HAS BEEN

REORGANIZED UNDER A NEW DIRECTOR, A PROFESSIONAL POLICE OFFICER WITH OUTSTANDING CREDENTIALS FOR THIS KIND OF WORK. HE HAS SUBMITTED A COMPREHENSIVE CY 1976 BUDGET FOR DNSP WHICH WILL FULLY IMPLEMENT THE BOLIVIAN NARCOTICS LAW IN TERMS OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE DNSP. THE BUDGET REQUEST, UNDER REVIEW AT THIS WRITING, IS FOR \$1.2 MILLION, A FIVE-FOLD INCREASE OVER THE CURRENT BUDGET. OF PERHAPS GREATER SIGNIFICANCE HAS BEEN THE RE-ORIENTATION OF THE INTELLIGENCE AND ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS TO FOREGO THE IMMEDIATE SMALL "BUST" IN FAVOR OF TARGETING ON THE LARGER OPEATORS AND THE TRAFFICKING SYSTEM. SEIZURES, THEREFORE, HAVE NOT BEEN IMPRESSIVE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD, BUT THE NEW STRATEGY SHOULD PAY OFF HANDSOMELY IN THE COMING YEAR.

2) CROP SUBSTITUTION PILOT PROJECT. DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS AREA INCLUDE: COMPLETION OF A FEASIBILITY STUDY OF THE USE OF REMOTE SENSING TECHNIQUES TO SUPPORT POSSIBLE EVENTUAL COCA CROP SUBSTITUTION AND CURRENT CROP CONTROL PROGRAMS; FORMAL MEETINGS WITH CAMPESINO LEADERS IN ALL AREAS WHICH MAY BE AFFECTED BY CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS (THESE APPEARED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN ENLISTING THE COOPERATION OF THE CAMPESINOS); A PRELIMINARY ON-SITE SURVEY OF PERSONNEL AND MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS CONDUCTED BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE USDA FOR THE INITIATION OF THE PILOT PROJECT; THE CANCELLATION OF THE PASA WITH USDA IN FAVOR OF A CONTRACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA TO CONDUCT THE PILOT PROJECT; AGREEMENT WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT ON A SCOPE OF WORK AND METHODOLOGY FOR A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY STUDY TO PROVIDE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA TO DOVETAIL WITH THE PILOT PROJECT IN CROP SUBSTITUTION. STEDMAN UNQUOTE. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE305320
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/HDC:JJBUCZACKI
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750451-0990
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975124/aaaaacqk.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 286666
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1975
TAGS: SNAR, BL, US
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006